

# Board of Supervisors



## COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

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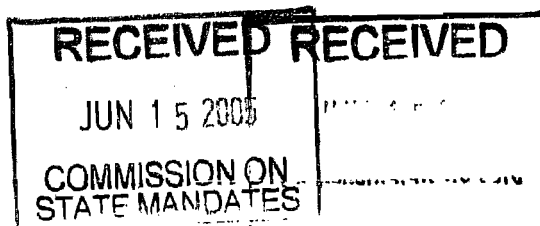
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
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CLERK OF THE BOARD

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June 10, 2005

Honorable Tom Campbell  
Director of the Department of Finance  
980 – Ninth Street, Suite 300  
Sacramento, CA 95814



Dear Mr. Campbell:

The San Mateo County Board of Supervisors requests that the Commission on State Mandates reconsider its decision and fund the work required of Council of Governments (COGs) to implement the state's Regional Housing Needs Allocation program.

The Board of Control determined that the State's RHNA program constituted a reimbursable mandate on councils of governments and in 1981 the Board of Control adopted parameters and guidelines to reimburse COGs for the RHNA activities. State funds have been appropriated and paid to COGs for the RHNA program for more than 20 years. Please reconsider the Executive Director's Decision of March 30, 2005 to no longer reimburse COGs for the RHNA process.

If COGs charge their member agencies for the RHNA costs, they in effect are paying for the RHNA process themselves. This runs counter to the well established policy underlying SB 90 (mandate claims) process which states, the state cannot shift the costs of providing public services to local agencies. Most importantly, the RHNA program is a state program created by the Legislature to address the affordable housing shortage in California. Simply put, it is a state program for which the state should reimburse all local agencies for their efforts at implementation. If the state believes this program is not important enough to fund, it should be repealed.

Attached is a resolution adopted by the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors requesting that the Commission on State Mandates approve funding to COGS for the Regional Housing Needs Allocation program process.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard S. Gordon".

Richard S. Gordon  
President, Board of Supervisors

C: San Mateo County Legislative Delegation  
CSAC  
Urban Counties Caucus  
ABAG  
C/CAG  
Board of Supervisor  
San Mateo County City Mayors  
San Mateo County City Managers

RESOLUTION NO. 067356

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE COMMISSION ON STATE MANDATES  
APPROVE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS REGIONAL HOUSING NEEDS  
ALLOCATION REIMBURSEMENT CLAIM

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RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, that

WHEREAS, for more than 20 years the state appropriately acknowledged its financial responsibility for funding the state regional housing needs assessment and allocation program that was enacted by the State Legislature in 1980 to address the state's shortage of affordable housing;

WHEREAS, since 1981 the state has reimbursed council of government (COGs) activities complying with the state's RHNA program;

WHEREAS, the Commission on State Mandates recently decided not to fund COG's RHNA activities; and the COGs have requested that the Commission on State Mandates reconsider its decision;

WHEREAS, it is problematic and unsound public policy for the Commission to base its decisions on the belief that COGs would be able to charge cities and counties for the RHNA process and that local governments in turn are able to levy a fee on an unidentified population to fund this whole process;

Regularly passed and adopted this 7<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2005.

*AYES and in favor of said resolution:*

*Supervisors:*

MARK CHURCH

JERRY HILL

RICHARD S. GORDON

ROSE JACOBS GIBSON

ADRIENNE J. TISSIER

*NOES and against said resolution:*

*Supervisors:*

NONE

*Absent Supervisors:*

NONE

Richard S. Gordon

President, Board of Supervisors  
County of San Mateo  
State of California

Certificate of Delivery

*I certify that a copy of the original resolution filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of San Mateo County has been delivered to the President of the Board of Supervisors.*

Marie L. Peterson

Marie L. Peterson, Deputy  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

